THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 3rd April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" As the Minister wants to go, I am taking question No. 142 out of turn."

Supply channel to Gudapakkam irrigation channel.

* 142 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the supply channel to Gudapakkam irrigation tank has been filled up and levelled by the Military when the Gudapakkam forest was cleared ;

(*b*) whether the villagers of Gudapakkam have addressed the Hon. Minister for Public Works to excavate and clear the supply channel at an early date; and

(*c*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) No. But it is understood that the ryots sent a petition to the Tahsildar about two years ago.

" (*c*) The portions levelled up by the military have been partially cleared by the ryots themselves. The channel requires silt clearance now and the work will be carried out without delay."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the work will be carried out before the next cultivation season ? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I have a telephone message from the Collector to say that he has personally taken it on hand and will get it completed ere long."

The Madras Vigilance Association and the Sri Sadana.

* 130-A Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received by the Government that unless assistance was immediately forthcoming, the

Madras Vigilance Association and the Sri Sadana would be compelled to reduce the number of inmates in the Association's Home to almost half the present strength;

(b) whether the Government have at any time considered the necessity to change the basis on which the grants are made to the Madras Vigilance Association so that the Association may continue its good work unhampered by fear of financial commitments; and

(c) whether the Government propose to give some interim relief to make up the deficit pending consideration of any fresh basis for the grants made?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (a) A representation has been received from the President of the Association that the latter is facing a financial crisis.

" (b) The question whether it is necessary to increase the grant paid by Government to the Madras Vigilance Association towards the maintenance charges of the inmates of the Sri Sadana is under the consideration of Government.

" (c) The matter is under consideration."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" May I know whether the grant will be increased?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is the matter which is being considered."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" A large number of inmates has to be maintained and the association cannot continue to maintain them unless the grant is increased. Will the Hon. Minister expedite orders?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That will be done as quickly as possible."

Madras Fire Service.

* 131 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether rules governing the Madras Fire Service have been made and if so, what they are;

(b) whether all the present incumbents satisfy the rules framed;

(c) whether arrangements are made to train men in lower ranks to qualify themselves for higher posts;

(d) where the Fire Stations are located in the province and the strength of staff employed in each; and

(e) whether the Government have under consideration the question of providing Fire Service to all the municipalities and major panchayats in the Province?